



**St. Paul's**  
United Methodist Church  
*Journeying Together Since 1885*

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE

9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

APRIL 12, 2026

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**Thank you for worshipping with us today.**

*Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we welcome you to St. Paul's, a Reconciling congregation of the United Methodist Church. All are celebrated here and all are safe. This bulletin will guide our service today. More helpful information can be found following the order of worship.*

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(\* - please stand in body or spirit)

**Gathering for Worship**

Announcements

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Prelude (10:30 AM)

*An Exultant Alleluia!*

Lani Smith

\*Call to Worship

Lay Reader

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: Christ is risen indeed!**

Leader: Living Christ, victor over death, grant us your infinite life.

**People: Risen Christ, breathe your life into us.**

Leader: Living Christ, whose forgiveness conquers all, bless us.

**People: Risen Christ, breathe your life into us.**

Leader: Living Christ, whose love defeats fear, grant us your courage.

**People: Risen Christ, breathe your life into us.**

Leader: Living Christ, whose Spirit empowers us to love, give us yourself.

**People: Risen Christ, breathe your life into us.**

\*Hymn #304

*Easter People, Raise Your Voices*

Opening Prayer

Lay Reader

**Gracious God, Thomas wanted to see proof of Christ's rising. We, too, want to touch and feel your presence. We want to hear your Living Word. Come to us, speak to us, and fill us with your Spirit, so that we ourselves may be living signs of resurrection. We pray in the name of Christ and the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

The Lord's Prayer (10:30 AM)

UM Hymnal, #895

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **Proclamation of the Word**

John 20:19-31 (NRSVUE)

Lay Reader

*Pew Bible – New Testament page 115*

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

<sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said,

“Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”

<sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Response to the Word

\*Hymn #420

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

Sermon

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Invitation to Discipleship & Giving

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

*Offerings by check may be made out to St. Paul's UMC. Scan the QR code to see one-time and recurring online giving options at [stpaulsk.org](http://stpaulsk.org). Thank you for supporting St. Paul's work engaging in meaningful worship and vibrant ministry in our community.*



Offertory (10:30 only)

*The Easter Song of Praise*  
Sanctuary Choir

Richard Shephard

Sing, choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing  
Around God's throne exult in harmony!  
Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave!  
Salute your king in glorious symphony.

Sing choir of earth! Behold your light has come!  
The glory of the Lord shines radiantly,  
Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death!  
The night is past, the day of life is here.

Sing, church of God! Exult with joy outpoured.  
The gospel trumpets tell of victory won.  
Your Savior lives: he's with you ever-more!  
Let all God's people shout the long Amen.

\*Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

\*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

*The Great Thanksgiving and Communion (9:00 AM)*

*The Invitation, Confession & Pardon (9:00 AM)*

UM Hymnal p. 12

***Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.***

*Passing the Peace (9:00 AM)*

*The Great Thanksgiving (9:00 AM)*

UM Hymnal p. 13-14

**Leader:** *The Lord be with you.*

**People:** *And also with you.*

**Leader:** *Lift up your hearts.*

**People:** *We lift them up to the Lord.*

**Leader:** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**People:** *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

*The pastor gives thanks, remembering God's acts of salvation and concludes:*

**L:** *And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

**P:** *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

*The pastor continues the thanksgiving and concludes:*

*L: And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.*

*P: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.*

*The pastor continues and concludes:*

*L: All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.*

*P: Amen.*

*The Lord's Prayer (9:00 AM)*

*UM Hymnal, #895*

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.*

*Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread.*

*And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

*Breaking the Bread and Giving the Bread & Cup (9:00 AM)*

*All communion bread is gluten-free.*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving (9:00 AM)*

*Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## **Sending Forth**

*\*Hymn #332*

*Spirit of Faith, Come Down*

*\*Benediction and Dismissal*

*Rev. Joey Heath-Mason*

*Postlude (10:30 AM)*

*Fanfare and Allegro*

*Jeffrey Honoré*



*Please visit the Octagon following the 10:30 worship service for a Sipping Ministry time of coffee, snacks, and fellowship hosted by the Smith family.*



## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers are given today to the glory of God  
by the flower ministry volunteers.

## WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

**Sunday, April 19, 2026**

9:00 AM – Worship with Communion

10:30 AM – Worship with Sanctuary Choir



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Weekly News** – Visit [stpaulsk.org/community/epistle-weekly-news](http://stpaulsk.org/community/epistle-weekly-news) or scan the QR code to find all the announcements, links, and event details shared in our Weekly News. For questions about announcements, please contact Erin Steele in the church office ([stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org](mailto:stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org)).



**Welcome!** – **Restrooms** including a family restroom with changing table can be found past the church office, near the water fountain. **Large-print Bibles and Hymnals** are available from our ushers. **T-coil hearing aids** work in our Sanctuary. **Sign in!** Please use the attendance pads in the pews to share your name and note your attendance with us today. Read more at [stpaulsk.org/worship](http://stpaulsk.org/worship).

**Weekday Hours** – The office is typically open for drop-in visits and phone calls Monday-Thursday, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. We encourage appointments since staff hours vary! If you have a pastoral emergency when the office is closed, please call the emergency line for Rev. Sheridan Allmond (410-205-5568) and she will be notified of your call.

### Events, Activities, and Information

- **Today: SPY** – *Sunday, April 12, 7:00-8:30 PM.* All friends of St. Paul's in grades 6-12 are welcome to meet in the Multi-Purpose Room for St. Paul's Youth fellowship, fun activities, Bible study, and food! Contact Pastor Sheridan ([sallmond@stpaulsk.org](mailto:sallmond@stpaulsk.org)) with questions.
- **This Week: Food Distribution** – *Monday, April 13.* Our Hunger Ministry donation focus for this month is **Applesauce!** It's one of the most popular canned fruit options for our recipients. We also gratefully receive all kinds of nonperishable pantry staples - please make sure items are not in glass, and are not expired. A list of the items we need every month can be found by the donation bin in the Narthex or online at

stpaulsk.org/service/hunger-ministry. For volunteer opportunities, email hunger@stpaulsk.org to find out more. The number of people seeking assistance through St. Paul's signature monthly ministry has grown; we now provide grocery resources year-round for about 170 households the 20895 ZIP code, and we can only do it thanks to the generosity and participation of our congregation.

- **This Week: Bible & Brews** – *Saturday, April 18, 5:00-6:00 PM*. Gather for casual interfaith conversations with Pastor Joey, Rabbi Adam, and friends from Temple Emanuel. All our meetings are family friendly! We meet at local restaurants offering food and drink that you can purchase as you like. Contact Pastor Joey at joeyhm@stpaulsk.org for the April location!
- **This Month: Taste & Sing** – *Tuesday, April 21, 12:00-1:30 PM*. Come to the Octagon for this monthly hymn sing (feel free to request your favorites!), stay for a short program about the stories behind our worship songs, then enjoy fellowship over a tasty lunch prepared by Ginny Hagberg (\$5 donation).
- **This Month: Sanctuary Flower Sponsors Welcome** – The flower chart for 2026 is available in the church office! There are 11 Sunday dates open between now and the end of August. The flower cost is \$45 and you may dedicate them for memory, honor, or celebration, and take the flowers home following the 10:30 worship service if you wish. Please add your name to the chart to reserve a date, then fill out a yellow form with dedication information.
- **Ongoing Activities** – *Please contact group leaders directly to confirm meeting times!*
  - **Sanctuary Choir** – *Most Sundays*. Open to grade 7 and up and adult singers. We rehearse each week at 9:30 AM on Sundays in Room 211 and sing for the 10:30 service. Contact Tom Pedersen (tpedersen@stpaulsk.org).
  - **Children's Choir** – *Most Sundays, 11:45-12:30*. Children in grades K-6 will meet in the MPR to prepare music to share in worship. Email Ms. Christina Griffin, director, at childrenschoir@stpaulsk.org, for up to date schedules and info.
  - **Yarn Ministry** – *Mondays twice a month, 7:00-8:30 PM*. Bring your knitting, crochet, or other craft project and craft alongside friends in the church library. Contact Karen Codner for meeting info: KDC811@gmail.com.
  - **Joyful Ringers** – *Wednesdays, 7:00 PM*. A handbell choir for adults that offers fun and fellowship! Contact Tom Pedersen: tpedersen@stpaulsk.org
  - **Prayerwaves** – *Wednesdays, 10:00-10:30 AM*. To pray together by phone, dial 425-436-6326 then enter access code 774042 followed by the # sign. To receive the prayer list by email, please contact Erin at stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org.
  - **Sermon Safari** – *Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00 PM*. In this drop-in Zoom study, we watch a video of a sermon by a notable speaker, and then discuss it. Contact Dr. Meg Baker at megbaker@verizon.net for the Zoom link.

- **Still Wednesday** – *Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 PM.* Still Wednesday gathers in either the Sanctuary or the Octagon for a guided time of poetry, scripture, music, and about 20 minutes of silent prayer. Text/call Marty Bartley at 301-873-6630.
- **Lydia Circle Sisters** – *Wednesdays once a month, 2:30-4:00 PM.* All ladies are welcome at Lydia Circle gatherings, usually on the first Wednesday of the month. Contact Susan Schwarz at 301-339-8242 or susan10748@aol.com.
- **Bible & Brews** – *Saturday or Sunday, once a month.* Join us at a local restaurant for family-friendly interfaith conversations with Rabbi Adam and neighbors from Temple Emanuel. Full schedule at [stpaulsk.org/community/calendar-events](http://stpaulsk.org/community/calendar-events) or contact Pastor Joey: joeyhm@stpaulsk.org.
- **Pancake Breakfast** – *First Saturday each month.* Meet friends and neighbors and enjoy pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, grits, fruit, beverages, and a specialty treat, served 8:00-10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. \$20 for a family of four.
- **Stephen Ministers** – Move through difficult seasons of life with a Stephen Minister by your side. Contact Martha Lipscomb (301-518-1642) to be connected to a trained Stephen Minister.
- **Sanctuary Flower Sponsors** – The flower chart for 2026 is available in the church office! Please add your name to the chart to reserve a date, then fill out a yellow form with dedication information. The cost is \$45.
- **Sipping Ministry** – To host this fellowship time with coffee and snacks, sign up on the office bulletin board and take a “how to host” guide.
- **St. Paul’s Leadership** – St. Paul’s leaders will be meeting on the fourth Monday of the month throughout the year to attend to the mission, ministry, and wellbeing of the church. All meetings are open to the public. To confirm meeting times, contact Chairperson Bill Stephens ([wtstephens@verizon.net](mailto:wtstephens@verizon.net)). To learn more, go to [stpaulsk.org/community/meet-the-staff](http://stpaulsk.org/community/meet-the-staff) and scroll down to the Leadership Team section.



## SOURCES AND LICENSING

Livestreaming each week at 10:30 AM at [stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home](http://stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home).

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\*\* Prelude: *An Exultant Alleluia!* by Lani Smith, from *The Complete Organist, Vol 2*, copyright 2001 Lorenz Publishing Co.

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer: by Steve Garnaas-Holmes, “Unfolding Light,” [unfoldinglight.net](http://unfoldinglight.net). Used by permission.

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\* Hymn: *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*. Words: Edwin Hatch (1878). Music: Robert Jackson (1888). Public domain.

\*\* Offertory: *The Easter Song of Praise* by Richard Shephard. Copyright 1988, 2003 The Royal School of Church Music, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. All rights reserved.

\*\* Doxology: *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (LASST UNS ERFREUEN)*. Words: Thomas Ken (1674), adapt. Gilbert H. Vieira (1978). Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesange* (1623), harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1906). Adapt. copyright 1989, The United Methodist Publishing House.

Hymn: *Spirit of Faith, Come Down*. Words: Charles Wesley (1746). Music: *Sacred Harp (Mason)* (1840). Public domain.

\*\* Postlude: *Fanfare and Allegro* by Jeffrey Honoré, from *Augsburg Organ Library*, copyright 2000 by Augsburg Fortress.





## LEADING AND SERVING

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Sheridan Allmond, [sallmond@stpaulsk.org](mailto:sallmond@stpaulsk.org)

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Joey Heath-Mason, [joeyhm@stpaulsk.org](mailto:joeyhm@stpaulsk.org)

**Music Director:** Mr. N. Thomas Pedersen, [tpedersen@stpaulsk.org](mailto:tpedersen@stpaulsk.org)

**Organist:** Mr. Marvin Mills, [mmills@stpaulsk.org](mailto:mmills@stpaulsk.org)

**Bookkeeping & Facilities:** Ms. Tracey Furman, [tfurman@stpaulsk.org](mailto:tfurman@stpaulsk.org)

**Communications & Administration:** Dr. Erin Bone Steele, [stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org](mailto:stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org)

**A/V Team:** Mr. & Mrs. John & Biljana Regan

**Children's Choir Director:** Ms. Christina Griffin

**Lay Leader:** Mrs. Anne Dean

**Usher Coordinator:** Mr. Nathan Bazawada

**Lay Readers:** Mrs. Kenzie Raulin (9:00 AM); Dr. Mary Revenis (10:30 AM)





*We, the community of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Kensington, welcome you in love. Jesus Christ accepts all, excluding none. So we welcome and affirm you who are gay, straight, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or queer. We welcome you without regard to your sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, culture, race, ethnicity, ability, education, or age. We welcome you no matter your immigration, marital, or economic status. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we welcome and affirm you as one of God's children into our community of God's unbounded love. All are celebrated here and all are safe.*





# St. Paul's

United Methodist Church

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*Journeying Together Since 1885*